



ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT AND SEAWALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMMENT SUMMARY

October 2003

Introduction

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project database contains 3,538 comments, 118 of which were submitted in October 2003.

Origin of Comments

111 of the comments received came from attendees at community briefings held by the project team. Seven comments were submitted on the website and one comment was submitted on the project hotline.

52 comments were received from the central waterfront area of the project area, 47 from the north area, and 17 from the southern area. The origin of one comment could not be determined.

Comments received at the community briefings are given during presentations by the project team. Comments and questions are recorded by a project team member and logged into the comment database.

Comment Categories

Each comment that is submitted is categorized by the content of the message. There are 60 comment categories divided into six sections. The sections are economic, structures/locations, parties, transportation, design and construction, and environmental. The comment categories range from cost and freight to traffic, air pollution and public safety.

Comments were received in the areas listed below. These are groups of similar categories with the ideas that were expressed in the comments.

Design/Construction:

This group includes categories like construction, urban design, the seawall, and parks/green space. There were 48 comments in this group.

- What are the construction impacts and possible detours of each alternative?
- What is the possible grade of the aerial structure from Pike/Pine to the Battery St. Tunnel in each alternative and how would that impact traffic, especially freight movement?
- How is the seawall constructed or repaired in each alternative?
- What is the impact of Elliott and Western ramps with relation to Broad St., pedestrian overpasses, and Sculpture Park?
- How could the waterfront be developed without an above ground viaduct – ferry queuing, parks/open space, trolley car, etc.?



Traffic:

This group includes categories like traffic, connections/circulations, pedestrians, and bicycles. There were 42 comments in this group.

- How will traffic be distributed/circulated in each alternative?
- What are the impacts or improvements for pedestrians and bicycles?
- How will access to downtown and the waterfront change?
- How will the differences in travel times for each alternative impact the final decision?
This comment came most often from the northern area of the project.
- How will each alternative affect other north/south roads, including I-5 and downtown streets?

Economic:

The group includes categories like cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. There were 38 comments in this group.

- How will the project impact businesses throughout the corridor? Specific questions and comments about the impact on businesses that use the viaduct for freight.
- Could possible funding sources be, taxing future land development and federal funds?
- What is the cost of an independent seawall fix and is it included in all the cost estimates?
- How much will state and regional taxes account for total project funding?

Transit:

This group includes categories like light rail, monorail, and transit. There were 11 comments in this group.

- Does the project assume the use of monorail and light rail to relieve traffic?
- What is the role of the trolley in the design of the waterfront?
- How is the railroad incorporated in each alternative?

Environmental:

This group includes categories like air pollution, noise, and water quality. There were three comments in this group.

- What would be the effects of an earthquake on the project timeline?